

NFAC 5693-79

22 October 1979

Memorandum for Bruce Clarke, DD/NFA

Subject: The Independent Reviewing Function

1. We believe that present NFAC reorganization plans do not sufficiently deal with the need of an independent reviewing function concerned with the quality of particular estimates, including interagency papers and national papers raising important issues of US interest and policy, and associated problems of quality control. It would seem to be important, if not crucial, that independent reviewing must be undertaken by people not directly involved in production.

2. Perhaps this independent review function could be performed by NIOs without portfolio in the National Intelligence Council. But how they would do this, while performing other functions as well, and who would act on their advice requires further study.

3. An alternative would be to attach such an independent reviewing group directly to the DD/NFA and to work out procedures for him to act on this advice effectively whenever he so chooses.


4. The case for the continuation of such an independent reviewing function is made cogently in the attached unsolicited memorandum by [ ] who belongs to OSR and at present is temporarily assisting the Senior Review Panel with regard to military/technological types of intelligence products.

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5. You may wish to send [ ] paper to the DCI along with a copy of our 2 October 1979 memorandum to you on NIEs, SNIEs and IIMs, which is mentioned in [ ] memorandum.

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Bruce Palmer, Jr.

  
Klaus Knorr

Attachment:  
As stated

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